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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/063,145	03/25/2002	Roderick Leon Barnes	BIF.001	2719

29767 7590 03/16/2005

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EXAMINER	
BLACK, LINH	

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2167	

DATE MAILED: 03/16/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/063,145	BARNES, RODERICK LEON	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	LINH BLACK	2167	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on *25 March 2002*.

2a)☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b)☒ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) *1-32* is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) *20-27* is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☒ Claim(s) *1-19 and 28-32* are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a)☐ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date *20041207*.
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ .
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Specification

Applicant is reminded of the proper language and format for an abstract of the disclosure.

The abstract should be in narrative form and generally limited to a single paragraph on a separate sheet within the range of 50 to 150 words. It is important that the abstract not exceed 150 words in length since the space provided for the abstract on the computer tape used by the printer is limited. The form and legal phraseology often used in patent claims, such as "means" and "said," should be avoided. The abstract should describe the disclosure sufficiently to assist readers in deciding whether there is a need for consulting the full patent text for details.

The language should be clear and concise and should not repeat information given in the title. It should avoid using phrases which can be implied, such as, "The disclosure concerns," "The disclosure defined by this invention," "The disclosure describes," etc.

The abstract of the disclosure is objected to because it contains more than 150 words. Correction is required. See MPEP § 608.01(b).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 20-21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Tabb et al. (USP 5603025).

1. Tabb et al. anticipated the independent claim 20 by the following:

retrieve a first object that defines characteristics of the first report, the first object including a first query language statement operable to retrieve a first data set from a relational database, the first object also including a linking instruction that specifies a linking relationship between at least a portion of the first data set and the second report, the first object further specifying a first report template to which the first data set is operable to be bound – figs. 3c-e; col. 1, lines 39-55; col. 5, lines 23-26; col. 6, lines 40-41; col. 17, lines 26-44; col. 18, line 66 to col. 19, line 23.

transmit the first query language instruction to a relational database management system – col. 7, line 49 to col. 8, line 15; col. 8, lines 49-64; col. 11, lines 44-54; col. 15, lines 27-49.

retrieve the first data set from the relational database management system in response to the first query language instruction; bind at least a portion of the first data set to the first report template – col. 1, lines 39-55; col. 17, lines 27-58; col. 18, line 66 to col. 19, line 23.

publish the first report – figs. 3c-e; col. 7, lines 49-65; col. 15, lines 27-65; col. 19, line65 to col. 20, line 10.

wait for the user to select an element of the first report; if the user selects an element of the first report, map the user's selection to a corresponding portion of the first data set – col. 1, lines 21-30; col. 10, lines 54-67; col. 15, lines 27-65; col. 17, lines 27-57.

if the linking instruction specifies a linking relationship between the second report and the portion of the first data set corresponding to the user's selection, then retrieve a second object that defines characteristics of the second report – col. 14, lines 24-46; col. 18, line 66 to col. 19, line 23; fig. 7b.

the second object including a second query language instruction operable to retrieve a second data set from a relational database, the second object further specifying a second report template to which the second data set is operable to be bound – col. 19, lines 38-65; col. 21, line 8 to col. 22, line 67.

retrieve the second data set from the relational database management system in response to the second query language instruction; bind the second data set to the second report template; and publish the second report – col. 19, line 1 to col. 20, line 10.

2. Tabb et al. anticipated claim 21 by the following:

where the linking instruction also includes a parameter to pass to the second object and to modify the second query language instruction therein, the method further comprising the following action if the action of retrieving the second object is performed: translate the second query language instruction to incorporate the parameter passed by the linking instruction – col. 19, line 1 to col. 20, line 10; col. 21, line 8 to col. 22, line 67.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

> A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –
>
> (e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

Claims 22, 24, 26-27 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Bakalash et al. (US 2002/0184187).

3. Bakalash et al. anticipated the independent claim 22 by the following:

a computer – fig. 19G (client machine); fig. 21; paragraph 0234; 0239.

a plurality of report pattern objects residing on the computer, each object defining the characteristics of a report, including a query language statement operable to retrieve a result set from the relational database – paragraphs 0008-0012; 0057-0058; 0116.

a data retrieving module operable to retrieve the result set specified by the query language statement – pars. 0014, 0070-0071.

a result set handling module operable to identify drill-down-report-specifying metadata in the result set – pars. 0074, 0231, 0235.

an event handling module operable to retrieve, in response to user requests, report pattern objects corresponding to drill-down reports specified in the metadata of the result set – pars. 0055-0056, 0201, 0233.

4. Bakalash et al. anticipated claim 24 by the following:

a translating module operable to incorporate parameters passed by the event handling module into the query language expressions of report pattern objects retrieved in response to user requests for drill-down reports – pars. 0055-0056; 0202; 0231.

5. Bakalash et al. anticipated claim 26 by the following:

a presentation handler operable to display reports in accordance with the report code generated by the reporting module – pars. 0029, 0037, 0055, 0120.

6. Bakalash et al. anticipated claim 27 by the following:

wherein the data retrieving module comprises at least a portion of a relational database management system – pars. 0057-0058, 0120, 0134, 0150, 0158, 0177, 0204, 0217, 0233-0234.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claim 23 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Bakalash et al. (US 2002/0184187), and further in view of Tabb et al. (USP 5603025).

7. As per claim 23, Bakalash et al. do not explicitly teach an editing module operable to enable the editing of the report pattern objects. However, Tabb et al. teach "methods for hypertext reporting in a relational database management system" – the title. Tabb et al. teach editing of objects: forms – col. 12, line 25 to col. 13, line 7. Thus, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to combine Tabb et al.'s with Bakalash et al.'s teaching in order to allow the editing/modification of report pattern objects.

Claim 25 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Bakalash et al. (US 2002/0184187)

8. As per claim 25, Bakalash et al. teach generating of reports corresponding to the result set on a user interface – paragraphs 0029, 0055-0056, 0120, 0168, 0252. However, Bakalash et al. do not explicitly teach generate report **code.** Thus, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention that report codes are inherently generated when reports are generated.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to LINH BLACK whose telephone number is 571-272-4106. The examiner can normally be reached on 8am - 5pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, JOHN BREENE can be reached on 571-272-4107. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Linh Black

LINH BLACK
Examiner
Art Unit 2167

December 7, 2004

Tuan S. Nguyen
Primary Examiner